

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Duquette on 6/3/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 19 – 28 and 38 have been cancelled.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1, 2, 4 – 15, 18, and 40 - 46, the examiner notes that the prior art does not appear to disclose the claimed limitations, as found recited in combination, directed towards the specific steps pertaining to the creation and usage of a commitment.

For example, regarding claims 1, 9, and 40 applicant recites in combination the method steps of comprising "(a) receiving ...", "(b) generating a codeword ...", "(c)

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constructing a first sequence of coordinate sets $(x_i, y_i) \dots$, "reordering the first sequence...", "outputting the first sequence", and then "utilizing the first sequence, in response to receiving...". These method steps, as found more specifically recited in combination, are not disclosed within the prior art.

For similar reasons, claim 18 comprises steps "(a)... (b)... (c)...(d)" and "(e)", wherein claim 18 further recites method steps of "(f) applying a function d...", "(g) outputting the second codeword...", and "(h) utilizing the second codeword...". Furthermore, regarding claims 41, 43, and 45 it is noted that the applicant recites essentially the same distinguished recitations in combination with a step "(c) constructing a first sequence (E) of coordinate sets $(x_i, z_i, y_i) \dots$ ".

These method steps, as found more specifically recited in combination, are not disclosed within the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFERY WILLIAMS whose telephone number is (571)272-7965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeffery Williams/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Matthew B Smithers/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2437